

“Sad Times Are Coming”

John 12: 20-33

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By Rebecca Enney

Running Chairs is excited to tell her friends about the new things that she and her mother bought yesterday.

“Like you know, me and Mommy went to at least 7 stores, you know, like to get the perfect things for me to wear on Easter morning. Like, it was just mommy and me. Not all my brothers and sisters. Cause you know I have a bunch of brothers and sisters, cause like my name you know because when I was born my dad said like we are Running out of Chairs and that’s our last name you know, Chairs, and so that became my name, like Running Out Of Chairs, but they just don’t say my middle name “Out Of”, they just like call me by my first name and my last name, like Running Chairs, and so like mommy bought me the PERFECT bridle and saddle bag for on Easter, so I will look really nice. Like, I can’t wait!”

Elizabeth asked “Will you wear it next week for the Palm Sunday procession when we carry the palms?”

“Like I don’t think so, cause we might not come like to Palm Sunday, cause, you know, like that starts out nice enough, with that big parade and stuff, but then it gets kinda sad and like it just is the start for a, you know, a really sad week, cause like then Jesus dies and all that and I don’t like to think about all that. Like I like the Easter part, not the sad parts, you know.”

Barabas thought to himself “Except life DOES have sad parts,” but he did not say it out loud.



You know, Jesus told his disciples a sad thing. He said that he would soon die. He said:

MY SOUL IS TROUBLED. THE HOUR HAS COME. A GRAIN OF WHEAT MUST FALL INTO THE EARTH AND DIE TO BEAR MUCH FRUIT. WHEN I AM LIFTED UP FROM THE EARTH, I WILL DRAW ALL PEOPLE TO MYSELF.”

He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. But the disciples did not understand. They did not want to hear about the sad parts. Like Running Chairs, they wanted to think of the celebrations and the victories and the big parades.

When you come to church next Sunday, you can be a part of the big parade with palms, and then, together, we will prepare ourselves for the sad part, when Jesus goes to die on the cross.

I hope all of you and your families will be here at church next Sunday AND for the sad times in Holy Week. Barabas will be here. Because when those sad seeds are planted in your heart, the joy of Easter will be great.

THE END